

Official Order.
HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, Dec. 28, 1867.
[General Orders No. 103.]
By direction of the President of the United States, the following orders are made:
First. Brevet Maj. Gen. H. O. O. Ord will turn over the command of the 4th Military District to Brevet Maj. Gen. A. C. Gillom, and proceed to San Francisco, California, to take command of the Department of California.
Second. On being relieved by Brevet Maj. Gen. Ord, Brevet Maj. Gen. Irvin McDowell will proceed to Vicksburg, Mississippi, and relieve Gen. Gillom, in command of the 4th Military Division.
Third. Brevet Maj. Gen. John Pope is hereby relieved of the command of the 3d Military District, and will report, without delay, at the Headquarters of the Army, for further orders, turning over his command to the next senior officer, until the arrival of his successor.
Fourth. Maj. Gen. George G. Meade is assigned to the command of the 3d Military District, and will assume it without delay. The Department of the East will be commanded by the senior officer now on duty in it, until a commander is named by the President.
Fifth. Officers assigned in the foregoing orders to the command of Military Districts will exercise therein any and all powers conferred by Acts of Congress upon District Commanders, and also any and all powers pertaining to Military Department Commanders.
Sixth. Brevet Maj. Gen. Mager Swayne, Colonel of the 45th United States Infantry, is hereby relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, and will proceed to Nashville, Tennessee, and assume command of his regiment.
By command of Gen. Grant,
E. D. TOWNSEND, A. A. G.
Military Order.
Gen. Ord has issued the following order:
HONORS. FOURTH MILITARY DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI AND ARKANSAS HOLY, SOUTHERN, MISS., Dec. 10, 1867.
Special Order No. 208.—Brevet Major Gen. Andrew C. Gillom, Colonel 24th U. S. Infantry, Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands for the State of Mississippi, will proceed to Washington, D. C., and report to the President and Secretary of War the starving condition of the freedmen in a large number of the counties in his sub-district, due to the ruin and the bankruptcy of the cotton planters, and the absence of corn. He will report the absolute necessity of some provision being made by the Government to feed the freedmen and avert the war of races in such sections as are without food. Gen. Gillom will take with him such reports and letters on file as are on the subject. By command General Ord.
O. D. GREEN, A. A. G.
The following important order was also issued on the 17th inst. by him:
Commanding officers are directed to notify the leading colored men, and take such other measures as may be necessary to give general publication of the fact that all freedmen, who are able, will be required to earn their own support during the coming year, and to go to work upon the best terms that can be procured, even should it furnish a support only, and thus prevent their becoming a burden to the Government. All freedmen who can, but will not earn a livelihood when employment can be procured, will lay themselves liable to arrest and punishment as vagrants. The co-operation of sheriffs and constable and police magistrates is requested in the enforcement of this order, and any just action of theirs under its provisions will be sustained by the military authorities.
THE SOUTHERN RELIEF COMMITTEE IN NEW YORK.—Another general meeting, says a New York correspondent, will be held, in the course of a few days, at the Academy of Music, with a view of reorganizing the Southern Relief Committee. The private letters which business houses are receiving from Mississippi, Georgia, and some portions of Louisiana, are of the most distressing character, and go to show the prevalence there of positive famine. One writer, a Northern man, writing from Alexandria, Louisiana, says: "Many persons along the Red River are dying of absolute starvation, and before the winter is over, the situation will be worse before it is better." Much relief is going South, in a private way, through private channels, but the time seems to be coming again when the necessities of the case demand that something should be done to insure contributions on a larger scale.
RALEIGH, December 23.—A negro was stabbed yesterday in fricas with two or three colored soldiers, and died in a few minutes.—The inquest implicates three blacks who have been committed for trial. Robberies and murders continue in the Counties of Craven, Jones and Lenoir. They are committed by armed blacks upon unoffending whites.—Prompt action is necessary to restore quiet and confidence.
WASHINGTON, December 28.—A dispatch received here announces the killing of Hon. Cornelius S. Hamilton, member of Congress from Ohio by his son, eighteen years of age, while under a fit of temporary insanity.
LONDON, Dec. 28.—Men with blackened faces stormed Martello Castle, near Cork; took arms and ammunition and escaped.
A Rio letter, of November 24, states that an English mail steamer Saturn went down with 400 persons aboard. Only fourteen escaped.

THE COURIER.
ROBT. A. THOMPSON, Editor.
R. A. THOMPSON & ROBT. YOUNG, PROPRIETORS.
TERMS.—For Subscriptions, TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly in advance, for six months, One Dollar.
Advertisements inserted at \$1 per square of ten lines or less for the first insertion, and 50 cents for each subsequent insertion.
Obituary Notices exceeding five lines, Tributes of Respect, Communications of a personal character, and Announcements of Candidates, will be charged for as advertisements.
Job Printing neatly and cheaply executed.
Payment can be made in currency, or in provision at the market rates.
Necessity compels us to adhere strictly to the requirement of cash payment.
PICKENS C. H., S. C.:
Saturday Morning, January 4, 1868.
We greet our readers with a "happy New Year." We trust that it has much in store for us that is pleasant and profitable. The "sea of troubles," which has so long enveloped us, is gradually receding. Streaks of light flash athwart the political sky. Confidence is taking the place of confusion slowly but surely. Let us, therefore, still strive to improve our condition in all respects; and make our Mountain homes, in truth, what they are in repute abroad now—the most desirable section in the whole country! We bend to our task: lend us a helping hand.
The "Southern Cultivator," for December, has been received. The "Cultivator" has passed into the hands of Messrs. Wm. & W. S. JONES, who will hereafter publish the same. The "Cultivator" is one of the best agricultural monthlies in the country. Price, \$2 a year. Published at Athens, Ga.
The address of Rev. SIDI H. BROWN is Columbia. Those who have names of subscribers for his "Christian Neighbor," will address him there. Mr. Brown hopes to be able to commence the publication of his paper at an early day.
A dreadful railroad disaster occurred at Angola, N. Y., last week. Sixty persons, men, women and children—were killed or burned to death. A hundred more were wounded, many in a frightful manner.
The President has displaced Generals PORE and ORD. Their fondness for political intrigue is doubtless the cause. Step by step are schemers and agitators shelved, and thereby the country resumes order and quiet.—The President deserves the gratitude of the country for his firmness and prompt action.
We are indebted to Messrs. DUFFIE & CHAPMAN, Booksellers, &c., of Columbia, for genuine Carolina Almanacs, for 1868.—Also, for late Magazines. These gentlemen have on hand a fine assortment of books, stationery, &c., which they sell on the most favorable terms. See their advertisement.
The weather last week was unseasonably, being balmy and spring-like. This week, however, the season has been true to itself. A terrible snow-storm, intermingled with rain and sleet, set in on Monday. The wind blew wildly from the north-east. A conglomerated mass of snow, sleet and ice, to the depth of three or four inches, covered the earth. Today, (Thursday) much of it remains, and the heavens, with lowering clouds, promise us much of the 'winter of discontent.'
Sale of Valuable Personal Property.
The Commissioner in Equity will sell at Fort Hill, on Thursday the 9th day of January, instant, the residue of the desirable Personal Property of the late A. P. CALHOUN. As the sale is for cash, bargains will no doubt be liberally dispensed on the occasion. See advertisement.
The Charleston Daily News.
This Journal has commenced the new year in earnest by a wholesome reduction for subscription. Whilst the "News" is now the cheapest, it is also one of the best newspapers in this wide country. Its columns daily attest the ability and brilliancy given them by its gentlemanly conductors, whilst the fairness of its course must be commended by all. We take pleasure in recommending the daily and tri-weekly "News" to the patronage of an appreciative public.
The time to which the collection of the direct tax in the Southern States was delayed expires on January 1; but Secretary McCulloch, in answer to appeals from the South to protect them from taxation, has, it is said, responded, that he does not intend to collect it unless forced to do so by Congress, and that he will appoint no collectors for that purpose.
AUGUSTA, December 28.—A negro, who raped a white girl on the public road, near Louisville, Jefferson County, on Saturday last, was arrested this morning, tied to a stake and burned, by a mixed crowd of whites and blacks.

New Post Commander.
Col. J. R. EDIE, our new post commander, and who was formerly stationed at Salisbury, N. C., is thus spoken of by the "Old North State," published at that place:
"Just and impartial in the discharge of his duties, his conduct as commander of the post at this place has met with the general approbation of all parties."
We hope, however, that the duties of Col. EDIE will be light, assured as we are, that the people of this section, knowing well their duty, will perform it, without recourse to the military authorities.
Pickens Female Seminary.
This institution will be opened on the first Monday in February next, at Walhalla, under the care and superintendence of first class teachers. See advertisement.
Hard Times—Worse Coming, &c.
We scarcely lay our hands upon a Northern paper which is not filled with the cry of "hard times"—no labor for the poor—their suffering, &c. Crime, too, is on the rampage, as well as other minor rascalities. The "New York Tribune," a prudent paper, says:
"The sad death of Mr. Hamilton, member of Congress from Ohio, adds another item to the flood—we may say the deluge—of crime and accident with which our columns have for days past been overburdened. The telegraph wires bend under their weight of woe; the old earth quivers with throbs of agony from the center to the pole; cities are shaken down, countries are engulfed, fair domains are over-flowed with red-hot lava; wife is arrayed against husband, mother against child, son against father; a hecatomb is sacrificed on one railway, half as many on another, and on still another the width of a hair stands between a thousand and sudden death. In social life, our newspapers are smothered all over with reports of divorce and separation trials, of infidelity and disgrace, of gigantic crimes undetected, half accomplished or completed. What shall be the end of these things?"
The State Convention.
The "Charleston Courier" learns, from a reliable source, that the total official returns give a majority of a little over 8,000 for a Convention, and that General Canby, in a day or two, will issue his order for the assembling of a State Convention in that city, on the 24th of January next.
Decisions of the Court of Errors.
The "Greenville Enterprise" learns from a distinguished member of the bar, who was in attendance upon the Court, that the following legal principles were decided by the Court of Errors during its recent sitting in Columbia:
1. The Statute of Limitations was suspended by the Stay Law in South Carolina.
2. The ordinance of the Convention allowing parties to prove what was the consideration and value of all contracts, during the war, is not in violation of the United States Constitution, nor does it impair the obligation of contracts.
3. It is not in violation of the Constitution of the United States for the District Courts to try criminals without a presentment of a Grand Jury.
4. The Tax Collectors are not compelled to receive the bills of the Bank of South Carolina in payment of taxes.
5. That slavery was not abolished at the date of President Lincoln's Proclamation, but ceased to exist when the State was captured.
6. Express Companies are liable to be taxed on their income.
The tax on National Banks, and the validity of negro debts, were postponed. The Court decided that the Columbia and Augusta Railroad might cross the South Carolina Railroad in Columbia. But the case was retained for a compromise between the two companies in regard to the crossing and other matters.
The question of the validity and constitutionality of the organization of the juries under Military Orders, was argued in the Court of Appeals, but no decision has yet been announced.
STOPPING A NEWSPAPER.—Some people seem to think that their subscription to a newspaper obligates the editor to advocate their own peculiar views on all questions which affect the public, forgetting that an editor should be an independent being, honest enough to give his opinions, and let his readers judge of what they are worth. To those who are ready to send word, "Stop my Paper," because the editor expresses his honest opinion, formed after careful research and mature deliberation, we commend the following little story:
A certain man hit his toe against a pebble and fell headlong to the ground. He was vexed, and, under the influence of anger and self-sufficiency, he kicked mother earth right awfully. With impetuous gravity, he looked to see the earth itself dissolve and come to naught. But the earth remained, and only his poor foot was injured in the encounter.
This is the way of man. An article in a newspaper touches him in a weak spot, and straightway he sends to "Stop his paper!" With great self-complacency he looks to see the crash when the object of his spleen shall cease to be. Poor fool, he has only hit his own toe against a world that does not perceptibly feel the shock, and injures to a slight extent none but himself.
Many of the negroes in Arkansas subsist entirely by hunting and fishing, and seem to be relapsing into the barbarous condition of their African ancestors.

The Amended Reconstruction Bill.
The following embraces the text of the bill as it passed the House on Wednesday last, after a spicy and interesting debate. If this bill becomes a law, a majority of the votes cast will determine the Constitution of any State, and the election for members of Congress will take place at the same time with the voting on the Constitution:
Be it enacted, That so much of the fifth section of an Act passed March 23, 1867, entitled, "An Act supplementary to an Act to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States," passed March 2, 1867, and to facilitate their restoration, as requires, that a majority of all the registered voters of the district shall be cast in favor of the ratification of the Constitution before it becomes valid be, and the same is hereby so far modified that a majority of the votes cast at the election for the ratification or rejection of the Constitution shall be considered as valid and as affirming or rejecting said Constitution.
Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the votes of the several States, mentioned in the Acts to which this is amendatory, may, at the time of voting on the ratification of the Constitution, vote also for members of Congress, who shall be entitled to take their seats as members of the House of Representatives, on taking the oaths of office required by law, whenever, and as soon as such States are duly reconstructed and entitled to representation in the Congress of the United States. And until a new apportionment shall be made, the elections for said members shall be according to the districts as they existed in the years 1853 and 1855, except when otherwise provided for, and at the same election officers who shall make the returns of the votes cast on ratification or rejection of the Constitution, shall enumerate and certify the votes cast for members of Congress, and give certificates of election to those possessing the largest number of qualified votes, and who shall be entitled thereto.
Masonic.
The following brethren have been elected officers of Walhalla Chapter, No. 23, Royal Arch Masons, for the ensuing Masonic year:
C. O. LANGSTON, M. E. H. P.
C. H. SPEARS, King.
FLETCHER SMITH, Scribe.
F. M. MORGAN, C. H.
W. M. WOODIN, P. S.
EDMUND HENDERSON, Treasurer.
H. A. H. GIBSON, Secretary.
M. F. MITCHELL, R. A. C.
J. W. F. THOMPSON, G. M. 3d V.
W. F. PARKER, " 2d "
R. J. GILLILAND, " 1st "
W. B. WHITE, Sentinel.
MOBILE, Dec. 28.—District Attorney I. V. B. Martin met Judge Busted, of the United States District Court, this morning, in front of the custom house, and said: "Judge, will you allow that indictment against me to take its course?" Busted replied: "Sir, the law must take its course." Martin then drew a revolver and fired three shots. Busted fell, with a ball below the breast bone and another in his right leg. Martin had been indicted by the United States Grand Jury for revenue frauds and extortion. He is now in jail. Judge Busted's wounds are not considered mortal.
MONTGOMERY, December 27.—Nicholas Davis, a prominent radical of North Alabama, has published a letter, fully endorsing the address of Messrs. Semple, Speed and others, the protesting members against the proposed Constitution. The Huntsville Advocate (radical organ) calls for the re-assembling of the Convention, to modify the objectionable features of the proposed Constitution—namely, the clauses about schools, the franchise and registration oath. That paper says if the Constitution is not modified, envisioned as we are and almost in a state of anarchy, its adoption can only be accepted as a choice of evils—not defeated as right and proper; but it is in our power to modify the evils now, and for that purpose call the Convention together. Sheets of Tusculum North Alabama, repudiates the nominations made by the self-constituted political Convention. The Huntsville Advocate repudiates the action of radical meetings in North Alabama, and says the white Unionists are ignored and rejected as unsound. The conservatives all over the State are arousing and determined to use every effort to defeat the Constitution. In North Alabama, the whites who went into the radical party are leaving it, on account of the objectionable features of the Constitution.
MONTGOMERY, December 28.—The County Republican Nominating Convention to-day nominated eight negroes and sixteen whites; four whites and two colored for the State Legislature. A majority of the whites are Northern men, and connected with the Freedmen's Bureau.
A negro was shot dead yesterday, on the plantation of Mr. Merriweather, near this city, by another negro, for declaring himself opposed to the Union League.
The Montgomery Council, which claims to be the genuine League, has expelled John C. Keffor, a leading radical, for dishonorable conduct and actions calculated to excite a war of races. Keffor has a League which he claims to be genuine. The whole affair will be laid before the Grand Council of the Union for its action.
SAN FRANCISCO, December 26.—There has been severe storm along the coast during the last two days; most of the shipping in the harbor was damaged. Disastrous accounts from the interior state that stage and railroad communication are suspended.
The "Memphis Avalanche" says there are 20,000 starving negroes in that city.

HAVANA, December 26.—Vera Cruz dates of the 20th, via Sisal 23d, have been received. City of Mexico dates to the 19th. There is much misery throughout the country, in consequence of exhaustion and disorganization from the war. The people are compelled by hunger to resort to brigandage. Peace has been re-established at Tepic. Several Perote prisoners have been liberated. The revolution in Yucatan is assuming large proportions. Santa Anna has been proclaimed dictator, and is hourly expected from Havana, with men and a million in money. The fort and town of Sisal are in the hands of the insurgents, but the port was blockaded by two Mexican gunboats. A number of Imperial officers arrived at Sisal from Matamoros on the 16th. The coast of Yucatan is closely watched to prevent the landing of the Mexican steamer Yobasco, which is ready to sail from Vera Cruz for the scene of the revolution, with 500 men and artillery. Santa Anna is still in Havana.
LONDON, December 27.—A despatch from Dublin says an unusual large number of letters have recently been received at the post office here, directed to prominent officials, each of these loaded with explosive materials designed to kill the person to whom addressed. Several exploded, but so far no one killed. A policeman of the city was horribly mangled by one which he opened.
We are accustomed to think that we are a great manufacturing people, but our large establishments, particularly in the working of metals, are entirely overshadowed by some of the huge English workshops. And even the English are left behind now, and little Prussia, which has lately grown to be great Prussia, boasts an establishment for the working of steel alone which surpasses any general manufacturer in the world. Krupp, the steel king of Essen, has within the past forty years built up what is in effect a town by itself as his workshop. He employs ten thousand workmen; add to them their wives and children, and there is already a respectable population. Last year he turned out sixty-two thousand five hundred thousand dollars, involving a daily consumption of one thousand tons of coal. Of guns alone he has delivered three thousand five hundred altogether, valued at five million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.
The cable authorities state that a telegram was sent last week from London to Washington in nine minutes and thirty seconds—or, in other words, it was received in Washington four hours fifty-eight minutes and thirty seconds in advance of the hour of its leaving London.
Professor Czermark, of the University of Jena, while examining the stomach of a mummy, found a roll of something, which, under the microscope, proved to be the skin of the sole of the feet. Further investigation shows that this disposition of the sole was a common practice, and it is supposed to be symbolical of the eternal separation of the dead from the earth.
AN INDEPENDENT FAMILY.—The "Camden Journal" says:
A friend of ours, with whom we spent a couple of nights a few weeks ago, with the aid of his two sons, one scarcely large enough to plough, made this year, three bales of cotton, upwards of four hundred bushels of corn, one hundred bushels of peas, two hundred bushels of sweet potatoes, besides Irish potatoes, pinders, &c., and had thirteen hogs ready for the knife, which would net him 2,000 to 2,300 pounds of pork, with flour enough to serve him until harvesting his next crop of wheat, of which he has planted largely. His crop was all harvested and housed, his lots and stables well filled with litter, and the boys were taking holiday after their year's work.
His wife and one daughter, attend to all the household and domestic affairs, and clothe (handsomely) the family, consisting of eight, from wool raised on the plantation. Our friend lives in the "Sand Hills," and plants sandy land, but since "freedom," has adopted the system of planting the richest portions, leaving the other to rest and recuperate. Is such a family dependent upon cuffy?
THE BANKRUPT LAW.—Mr. Clinton T. Rice, of New York, who is preparing a report of the operations of the Bankrupt Law, is in receipt of a number of letters from Commissioners in Bankruptcy, inquiring when the fifty per cent. clause of the Bankrupt Act went into effect. There seems to be a diversity of opinion on the subject, not only among the Commissioners, but among United States Judges and lawyers. Some claim that this clause took effect immediately on the passage of the law, while others assert that it did not go into operation until June, 1867. It is probable the matter will be submitted to Chief Justice Chase for his decision.
CONFEDERATE MONEY.—In New Orleans, last week, the great ease of Weaver vs. Anfoux, which has elicited so much learning and ability in the lower and the Supreme Court, has been finally decided by the latter tribunal. The judgment of the Court below in favor of Weaver was confirmed. The points involved were, whether a party, who has given a mortgage for a loan made in Confederate notes, could resist the enforcement of the mortgage, when he had used the notes in question to release a previous mortgage. The Supreme Court decided that he could not avail himself of such a plea after accepting and using the notes as they had been used. The judgment was therefore in favor of the mortgagee.
A rich Chinaman, of San Francisco, was recently buried in a coffin which cost \$1,000 in gold.

MAIL FAILURE.
We are compelled to go to press this week without the latest news, the mail having failed to come through for several days. Sunday's "Phoenix" is our latest newspaper date.
In New York, on the 28th ult. cotton was 15 1-2. Gold, 83 1-2.
AFFAIRS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—A colored man in this city, one of the delegates elect to the State Convention, has written a letter to a gentleman in Washington, from which the "Chronicle" is permitted to extract as follows:
I am informed that it is likely Gen. Canby will order the assembling of the Convention some time about the middle of January. I have no fears that moderate councils will not prevail, and a Constitution be framed that will be acceptable to a majority of the people, including a fair sprinkling of whites, and which Congress will approve. That a strong effort will be made to defeat it, however, whatever it may be, there is no doubt, but this must and will be overcome. I am glad to see that Senator Wilson and others have introduced Bills providing that a majority of the votes given on such questions shall determine the result. I am also glad to observe that it is likely the Bureau will be continued. Everything like business is very dull, and we have a hard time of it.
PETITION FROM ALABAMIANS.—A petition was last week presented to the President, signed by about 800 prominent citizens of Alabama, setting forth that a "revolutionary body," styled a Convention, has been in session at the capital of that State, and has passed ordinances setting aside the Constitution and laws of Alabama, and disfranchising many of her citizens who have already received the Executive pardon for the offences alleged the interposition of the President to prevent the ordinances of said Convention from being carried into effect.
The ice in the Hudson, at Albany, is so thick that teams crossed it last week, when heavily loaded, without fear of accident.—Taurus also crossed at Rhinebeck. At Poughkeepsie, the river was frozen over; but it was open at Newburg, though a single cold night, it was anticipated, would close it there.
LARGE SALE
OF VALUABLE
PERSONAL ESTATE.
THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
In Equity—Pickens.
Florida Calhoun,
T. G. Clomson, Adm'r } Bill of Foreclosure, Account, Relief, &c.
M. M. Calhoun, et als }
UNDER Decree of the Court of Equity, in the above stated case, I will sell to the highest bidder, at Fort Hill, on
THURSDAY, 9TH JANUARY, 1868,
The remainder of the PERSONAL ESTATE of the late Andrew P. Calhoun, deceased, consisting of ELEGANT HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c., namely:
\$3,000 STOCK IN BLUE RIDGE ROAD;
BEDS, BEDSTEPS & BEDDING, fine
BUREAUS, SIDEBOARDS, TABLES,
SOFAS, SETTEES, CARPETS,
ARM CHAIRS, ROCKING CHAIRS,
PARLOR & PLAIN CHAIRS,
ONE GOLD WATCH,
SILVER, pure and good;
GLASSWARE, CHINA, CROCKERY,
KNIVES & FORKS,
KITCHEN FURNITURE, and various other articles too tedious to enumerate.
—ALSO—
THE LIBRARY of the late Hon. John C. Calhoun, very valuable.
—TERMS CASH.
ROBT. A. THOMPSON, C.E.R.D.
Dec 23, 1867 14 1
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